

Appln No.10/084,631

Amdt date March 22, 2004

Reply to Office action of May 9, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 8-12, 15-17, 30-37 are pending in this application, of which claims 1, 8, 15 and 30 are independent. Claims 1, 8, 9, 15, 30 and 31 have been amended. Claims 4 and 29 have been canceled. The amendments add no new matter and find full support in the application as originally filed. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and a timely indication of allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 3, 10, 15, 16, 17, 32, 35 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by T. L. Atkinson (U.S. Patent No. 2,276,141); and claims 1, 3, 10, 15, 17, 32, 35 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Leifheit (U.S. Patent No. 3,888,353). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Examiner has also indicated that "[c]laims 4, 8, 9, 30 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims."

Claim 4 has been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 4. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is in condition for allowance, as essentially being claim 4 rewritten in independent form. Claims 2, 3 and 10 depend from claim 1. As such, Applicant submits that claims 2, 3 and 10 are also in condition for allowance as being dependent from an allowable base claim and for the additional limitations they contain therein.

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The Examiner did not include claim 29 in his listing of claims having allowable subject matter. However, Applicant respectfully submits that this was a mere clerical error. Claim 29 did not appear in any of the Examiner's rejections. In addition, the references cited by the Examiner (Atkinson; Leifheit; and Marker) either alone or in combination do not disclose, teach or suggest "a target removably attached to the first attachment structure, wherein the target has an opening which is centered with respect to the vertical plane, and wherein the opening is at least as large as a regulation size golf ball," as specified by claim 29. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 29 contains allowable subject matter.

Claim 29 has been canceled. Claim 15 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 29. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 15 is in condition for allowance, as essentially being claim 29 rewritten in independent form. Claims 16, 17, 32, 35 and 36 depend from claim 15. As such, Applicant submits that claims 16, 17, 32, 35 and 36 are also in condition for allowance as being dependent from an allowable base claim and for the additional limitations they contain therein. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 3, 10, 15, 16, 17, 32, 35 and 36 over Atkinson under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 11, 12, 33, 34 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over

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Atkinson in view of Marker, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 3,722,702). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 11 and 12 depend from claim 1. Claims 33, 34 and 37 depend from claim 15. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 15 are in condition for allowance. As such, Applicant submits that claims 11, 12, 33, 34 and 37 are also in condition for allowance as being dependent from an allowable base claim and for the additional limitations they contain therein. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 11, 12, 33, 34 and 37 over Atkinson in view of Marker, Jr. under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

As mentioned above, the Examiner has indicated that "[c]laims 4, 8, 9, 30 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims."

Claims 8 and 30 have been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8 and 30 are in condition for allowance. Claims 9 and 31 depend from claims 8 and 30, respectively. According, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 9 and 31 are also in condition for allowance as being dependent from an allowable base claim and for the additional limitations they contain therein.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-3, 8-12, 15-17, 30-37 are in

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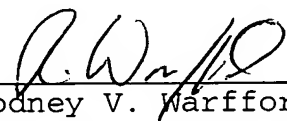
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condition for allowance, and a timely indication of allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any remaining issues that can be addressed by telephone, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

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